Strike in NFL Units

656. SHRIMATI CHANDRA KALA PANDEY:
SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a 24-hour token strike was observed on 30th March, 2001 in all the units of NFL against the decision to disinvest NFL;

(b) whether a two-day strick was observed on 25th and 26th April, 2001 by all the units / offices of NFL;

(c) if so, whether any discussions had been held with the unions / associations of NFL on this issue; if so, the gist of the discussions held so far; and

(d) the view of the unions / associations on disinvestment of NFL?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SATYA BARTA MOOKHERJEE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The management of National Fertilizers Ltd. (NFL) had held discussions with the unions / associations of NFL to impress upon them that the disinvetment will keep the interest of the company in view to improve its performance and that it will not affect the employees adversely.

(d) The unions are against the privatisation of the company and transfer of the management control to a strategic buyer. They are apprehensive that the change in management will adversely affect their service conditions.

Pollution of Brahmani River

657. SHRI RAMACHDNADRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether River Brahmani of Orissa is one of the most polluted rivers of India; if so, what steps have been taken by Government to make the river bathable and drinkable for human beings, animals as well as birds; and

(b) which industries and mines of Sundharagarha, Angual and Jajpura Districts of Orissa are polluting River Brahmani and what legal actions have been taken by Central Pollution Control Board and Orissa Pollution Control Board?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) River Brahmani in Orissa is polluted from municipal sewage as well as industrial discharges. Brahmani is covered under the ongoing National Reiver Conservation Plan and works in the three towns of Talcher, Chandbali and Dharamshala, at an estimated cost of Rs. 9.94 crore, have been included for pollution abatement from municipal sewage. Industrial pollution is monitored and controlled under the environmental laws.

(b) The list of industries and mines of Sundharagarha, Angul and Jajpura Districts of Orissa which are polluting River Brahmani and the details of the action taken by the State Pollution Control Board against these industries and mines are given in the enclosed Statement-I and Statement-II.

Statement-I

Action taken by the Orissa State Pollution Control Board against Indutries and Mines of Sundharagarha, Angul and Jajpura Districts which are Polluting River Brahmani

Induries concerned	Specific direction suggestions made by the Board	Action taken by the industry	Action taken by the Board
1	2	3	4
Rourkela Steel Plant (Steel Unit)	Adequate treatment facility for all the effluent generated from the plant	(i) BOD (Biofogical Oxidation Dephenolisation) plant commissioned, but not working properly (ii) All other treatment units operating satisfactory	Consent has not been granted

1	2	3	4
Fertilizer Plant (RSP)	(i) Install sodium nitrate recovery plant (ii) Adopt adequate treatment facility to meet the prescribed standards before discharge	(i) Not compiled (ii) Treatment facility not	Consent has not been granted
NALCO (Smelter)	(i) Install defluoridation plant by July, 1999 (ii) Minimise the generation of effluent through recycle and reuse	(i) Defluoridation plant commissioned, but not functioning properly. (ii) Specific action plan has been made and implemented. This has reduced the discharge of effluent from 150 m3 / day to 60m3 / day	Consent to operate for 2000-2001 has been refused.
NALCO (CPP)	(i) Complete recirculation of ash pond overflow effluent	(i) Commissioned since April 1999 the system was extensively damaged due to break of ash pond on 31.12.2000. However, it has been restored to normal functioning since	Direction under Section 32 has been issued in the aftermath of the breach of ash pond to complete various tasks within a definite time frame, and the

1	2	3	4
	(ii) Complete recirculation of effluent other than ash slurry	6.2.2001. (ii) The recirculation scheme is under operation	progress is being monitored & reviewed by the Board regularly.
Talcher Thermal Power Station (NTPC)	(i) Construction of ash ponds of adequate capacity	(i) Ash ponds are being constructed use progressively.	Consent to operate for 2000-2001 refused.
	(ii) Commissioning of recirculation system for ash pond overflow effluent by 30.6.2001	(ii) Work under progress.	
	(iii) Complete commissioning of sewage treatment plant by 31.5.2001	(iii) Work under progress.	
FCI, Talcher	Closed since 01.04.1999.		

Statement II

Legal action taken by the Orissa State Pollution Control Board against industries & mines of Sundharagarha, Angul and Jaipura Districts which are Polluting River Brahmani

Sl. No.	Name of the industry/mine against whom case has been filed under Water Act, 1974	Name of District where the industry/ mine is situated
1.	M/s Talcher Thermal Power Station, Talcher	Angul
2.	M/s Jagannath Colliery (Mahanadi Coalfild Ltd.)	Angul
3.	M/s Balanda Colliery (MCL)	Angul
4.	M/s Lingaraj Open Cast Project (MCL)	Angul

1	2	3
5.	M/s Kalinga Open Cast Project (MCL)	Angul
6.	M/s Bharatpur Project (MCL)	Angul
7.	M/s Sukrangi Chromite Mines (M/s OMC Ltd.)	Jaipura
8.	M/s Kaliapani Chromite Mines (M/s OMC Ltd.)	Jaipura
9.	M/s South Kaliapani Chromite Mines (M/s OMC Ltd.)	Jaipura
10.	M/s Kamarda Chromite Mines	Jaipura
11.	M/s NALCO (CPP)	Angul

Protection of forest wealth in Northern India

658. SHRI S. RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that wildlife population in South India has, of late, shown an increase, owing to measures undertaken by the Centre and State Government in the region;

(b) if so, the details of measures taken; and

(c) whether such measures to protect forest wealth would also be taken for Northern region?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) The estimated population of tiger, leopard and elephant in four Southern States for two consecutive census is as follows:

State	1993			1997		
	Tiger	Leopard	Elephant	Tiger	Leopard	Elephant
Andhra Pradesh	197	152	46	171	138	57
Karnataka	305	455	5500	350	620	6088
Kerala	57	16	3500	73	16*	5737
Tamil Nadu	97	138	2400	62	110	2971
Total:	656	761	11446	656	984	14853

NOTE: *Census not done. Hence the figure for 1993 incorporated in 1997 also)